



CONNECTICUT CENTER
FOR PATIENT SAFETY
QUALITY HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT.

February 28, 2012 Committee on Aging

My name is Jean Rexford and I am the Executive Director of the CT Center for Patient Safety. I am here in support of Bill 177, An Act Concerning Liability of Nursing Home Owners for Neglect and Abuse of Nursing Home residents.

In January, the Office of Inspector General reported that their completed study showed that 130,000 Medicare beneficiaries experienced an adverse event each month in our nation's hospitals. I cannot even imagine what the same study would show in our nursing homes.

Nursing homes must be held liable for preventable adverse events.

The Department of Public Health fines are just the cost of doing business. Our families need protection. In this written testimony I have included all of the fines I could find for 2010.

The DPH simply does not have adequate staff to monitor this vulnerable population.

In 2010 the following nursing homes were fined:

Cobalt Lodge Health Care and Rehab	\$510
Meriden Center	\$615
St. Joseph's Manor	\$605
Apple Rehab	\$510
Sister Anne Virginie Grimes Health Center	\$580
Bishop's Corner Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation	\$3,000
Bickford HealthCare Center	\$510
Village Manor	\$500
Edgehill Health Center	\$500
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Apple Rehab Middletown	\$580
The Kent	\$615
Hilltop Health Center	\$510
Crossings East Campus	\$510
Silver Springs	\$589
Bishops Corner Skilled Nursing and Rehab	\$690

Litchfield Woods Health care center	\$600
Montowese Health and Rehab	\$510
Connecticut Health of Greenwich	\$1,200
Maple View Manor	\$620
Water's Edge Center	\$110

While some nursing homes work toward improvement, others may think of these very small fines as the cost of doing business. The understaffed Department of Public Health cannot possibly provide the necessary regulation. Nursing homes must be held financially responsible and accountable when serious preventable harm happens.

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